

# The Polk County Observer

(THE HOME PAPER)

DALLAS, POLK COUNTY, OREGON, TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1917

(TWICE-A-WEEK)

NO. 90

## LEGISLATURE CONVENE

### LEGISLATURE OPEN TUESDAY AT SALEM.

Has Been Put in Reading—Economy Expected to Be Watchword.

Legislative session of the state of Oregon convened at Salem, W. V. representative from Polk county and Congressmen from the district of Oregon, took active part in the session of the house. C. L. McCoy is state senator.

There has been little change in the state house extension of the forty-first legislative session. The vacuum cleaner in the halls, and the house is furnished with new chairs and re-upholstered. There are 1915 cobwebs, and heavy members. New members in the sockets, and new members in the seats. The members will shine on every familiar name, some of them of monikers.

The subterranean stores of the space beneath the floor, Secretary Olcott's list of articles—simply of them takes a whole lot of several kinds of files, bill files (loose, baskets, pencils, pens, erasers, rulers, desk pads and blot-

at the bottom of the ink of the most important aluminum collapsible so the lady member cannot complain about a common ink out of a common ink two years ago.

the 1915 session, economy be the most over- in the legislative over- the passage of the six- ment has given new lawmakers to try and thing substantial along

the big discussions, or two outstanding things into the bone- will be not about the economy treatment, but to make the first incision

to how many clerks the legislature will be a burning issue and may result in the one-clerk-and-one-each man rule. That with most of the del- their full quota of

state institutions have pressed appropriations, reasons of necessity, few have gracefully been for about the placed at the last ses-

taken away, if bills proposed along those lines are passed.

The proposal will also be made to divert the funds from the motor vehicle licenses to the highway department, instead of turning them over to the counties as at present, for road work.

## HAS VERY DEEP WELL.

### Hole on K. B. Kugle Place is Down 1000 Feet.

Well drillers on the K. B. Kugle place, 1 1/2 miles north of Dallas, reached a depth of 1000 feet last Friday, without evidence of water. The well was started in October by Frank Maybee and at a depth of about 600 feet a small flow of natural gas was encountered. When lighted it made a flame about three feet high. The well is plugged every night to see if the gas flow increases, but so far the drillers have been unable to notice any appreciable increase.

The well was started with the idea of enlarging the supply of water which sometimes went short in the summer, but so a great a depth has been reached now that there is little hope of finding fresh water. Mr. Kugle states the drilling will continue, more in a prospective nature, in hopes of getting a larger flow of gas. It is also probable that salt water will be found soon. The well is located within six feet of a 3-inch hole which was drilled on the farm a few years ago to a depth of 325 feet. It is believed the new well is the deepest one in Polk county.

## SILVERTON HIGH WINS

### TEN EXTRA MINUTES NEEDED TO DETERMINE VICTOR.

### Failure to Convert Free Throws Costs Dallas' Hard-Fought Game; Bennett and Durno Stars.

Failure to convert free throws cost Dallas high school a hard-fought 25 to 24 basketball game Friday night. Silvertown nosed under the wire a winner after two extra five minute periods.

Silvertown high excelled in teamwork although the game was mainly an individual battle between Durno, crack little forward for the visitors and Bennett, who played a star game for the locals. Durno rescued the ball from under the Dallas basket time and again and cleverly dribbled down the floor. He shot 9 out of 11 tries for free throws and scored three field goals. Bennett shot five field baskets.

When time was called announcing the end of the regular 20 minute halves, the score stood Dallas 24, Silvertown 24. Both captains agreed to play five minutes extra to determine the winner. Five minutes extra were played and there was still no winner. Both teams played a safe, close guarding game and neither side was able to get within easy range of the elusive hoop.

Another five minute session was decided upon. The two teams battled along for four minutes without a bobbie and then Referee Chenoweth called a double foul. Durno promptly dropped the leather into the net, for Silvertown, but Bennett failed to convert and the game soon ended. Score Silvertown 25, Dallas 24. The line-up: Dallas: Craven (4) F, Durno (15) F, Hayes (10) F, Pittman (0) C, Graves (0) C, Bristol (0) G, Beebe (0) G, Buell (4) F, Bennett (10) G, Brane (6) G. Referee: Chenoweth.

## Legislature Can't Protest Staffin.

Quite a ripple stirred the comparative calm of legislative organization Sunday, when Senator Smith of Hood River stated that he intended to challenge George R. Wilbur's right to a seat in the lower house of the state legislature. "No one with a lucrative position of a public nature can be seated in the state legislature" is the gist of the state law under which Mr. Wilbur became the bone of contention. Mr. Wilbur is said to be captain of the O. N. G. company at Hood River. Captain Staffin of this city received a forty days' furlough that started yesterday morning. No pay, no protest; Captain Staffin evidently foresaw the situation.

## Judge Teal Quite Low

Former County Judge John B. Teal is quite low at his home near Falls City and little hopes are held for his recovery. Among Dallas people who visited him last Saturday afternoon were Ed. F. Cost, Herman Peterson, Ed. Himes and Frank Bethel.

## LEGAL CURES DEBATED

### CONGESTION IN SUPREME COURT RECEIVES MOST ATTENTION

### Polk-Yamhill Bar Association Instructs Representative Vinton On Indeterminate Sentence.

Ways and means to relieve the congestion in the supreme court of Oregon was the chief issue discussed at the second meeting of the Polk-Yamhill bar association at McMinnville, Wednesday.

Under the present arrangement it takes about a year and a half to get a settlement, if the case has to go to the supreme court.

Two main avenues of escape from the universally-culpable situation received the most favor. One was to make the decision of the circuit court final in cases not involving amounts exceeding \$500.00. The other was to have a new court of appeals established, which would try cases involving amounts up to \$1,000.00.

The latter, which is considered the better by several local legal men, would necessitate an amendment to the state constitution. The different plans were discussed in the presence of W. T. Vinton, representative from Yamhill county to the present legislature, and although he has them under advisement and seemed favorably inclined, it is doubtful whether definite action can be secured at this session.

The indeterminate sentence question also came in for considerable debate. The assembly voted to have it repealed, by a large majority. The indeterminate sentence allows the trial judge in circuit courts to prescribe sentence and make the term from one to ten years. Then it takes the prisoner out of his hands and leaves the term to the prison authorities. The Polk-Yamhill Bar association favors leaving the sentence in the hands of the trial judge throughout.

## CIRCULATING "LIME" PETITION

### Mrs. Winnie Braden Gets Many Signatures in Dallas.

Dallas business men and farmers are liberally signing a petition, being circulated by Mrs. Winnie Braden this week, asking the state legislature at this session to "establish a state-owned and operated lime plant for the production of ground limestone at cost for agricultural use."

Mrs. Braden attended the lime convention at O. A. C. last week and was one of the delegates from each section of the state who have been appointed to circulate the petitions. Farmers of Oregon have been paying an unreasonable price for lime fertilizer for their acid land and the only method of securing cheap lime is with the assistance of the state. Six of the states of the union at present operate state-owned lime plants for the benefit of the farmers and they are all successful. If petitions in other sections of the state meet with as much success as Mrs. Braden's, the legislature will no doubt take some kind of action.

## "WET GOODS" WILL BUST.

### Frisco Firm Can't Guarantee Against Dropping on Sidewalks.

"The world is a mighty small place after all" holds true in the case of a Dallas news item that traveled all the way to San Francisco and back since Christmas.

A local man who had the misfortune to spill a little "Christmas cheer" received the following communication from his retail liquor house in San Francisco:

"Apricot and J. M. H. special brandy coming up by Fargo, and I trust it will reach you promptly and in good condition.

I wish you would be a little more careful the way you handle those packages; I will do my best to get them to the express office whole but cannot guarantee them to stay whole after they are dropped on the sidewalk.

## Fuller and Staffin in Line.

Speaker Stanfeld has not publicly announced his committee appointments for carrying out the legislative program this session but W. V. Fuller and Conrad Staffin of this city are probably sure to receive the chairmanships of the forestry and military affairs committees, respectively.

## Ways More Prune Land.

Dr. Mark Boyter has purchased 18 acres of the Quiring estate, adjoining the Quiring station, and will plant nine acres to prune trees. The other nine acres will be sowed to grain.

## SALEM BRIDGE TO CLOSE

### NO TRAFFIC POSSIBLE AFTER THURSDAY NOON.

### Polk and Marion County Courts Reach Unanimous Decision; Railroad Jitney May Be Operated.

The inter-county bridge at Salem will be permanently closed to fall traffic at noon Thursday, by order of the Marion and Polk county courts, which met in joint session yesterday.

The action was unanimous. Joseph Weare, assistant state engineer in charge of the bridge department, testified that the bridge is absolutely unsafe. His decision is based upon a thorough physical examination of the bridge and the stresses. The bridge was first condemned in 1912 and every engineer, who has examined it since, has agreed with that judgment. The men at the joint meeting yesterday came to the conclusion that the bridge was just as apt to fall over with no one on it, as it was under a several ton pressure.

Judge Kirkpatrick said, after the meeting: "We hated to close it up; it will mean a great inconvenience to many people, especially those living in West Salem, but the danger to life and property far exceeds any inconvenience."

One section of the bridge on each side of the river will be entirely removed and a big barricade erected to prevent any kind of traffic whatsoever.

Marion county now faces the problem of communication between Salem and West Salem. The county court broached the ferry proposition but Judge Kirkpatrick and commissioners Manston and Beckett refused to listen to it. "Polk county will do nothing about it; it is entirely up to them," said Judge Kirkpatrick.

The Salem Commercial club has the matter under advisement and may provide some means of traffic in conjunction with the Southern Pacific company. A jitney may be operated.

The members of the two courts thrashed the matter out thoroughly, not even stopping for lunch, yesterday at Salem.

## FIRE DANGER LESS AT JAIL.

### Sheriff Orr Gets County Court to Repair Bastille.

Sheriff Orr expects a guest. Imbued with a true spirit of hospitality, he has prepared for his company.

County Commissioners C. W. Beckett and Mose Manston have extended the helping hand and the county bastille is in ship-shape.

After installing a new furnace, the sheriff got to thinking about fire danger and escorted the commissioners there for a "once-over." The decision was to cover the smoke pipe with asbestos, and to cut out two useless joists close to the pipes.

The job was done Saturday.

## County Health Report.

Dr. B. H. McCallon, county health officer, reports that during the month of December the total number of births was three, all males and all the total number of deaths, four. The births were as follows: William Loren, son of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Boswick, of Dallas, born December 10; son, born to Mr. and Mrs. Joe Sherwood of Dallas on December 16; son, born to Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Klassen, of Dallas, December 27.

The death report shows that all the deceased were males. The deaths were as follows: Jasper Dimick, born September 4, 1868, died December 9, 1916; Clay Richard Dimick, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jasper Dimick, born May 2, 1902, died December 12, 1916; Wilton A. Haynor, born February 1, 1866, died December 25, 1916; George Marion Dungan, born February 16, 1848, died December 30, 1916.

## Auers Buy Marion Farm.

Wm. Ellis and Glen O. Butler have just sold the highly improved forty-acre farm of Mary A. Hodges in Marion county to Fred Auers and wife of Rickreall. This sale follows close on the heels of the sale these gentlemen have just made of the Hibbard farm to J. M. Card; they announce the fact that the real estate business is much improved and they expect to sell at least one farm a week during the remainder of the year.

## Fern Non-Partisan League.

Steps toward the formation of a non-partisan league of farmers of the state of Oregon were taken following a lecture at O. A. C. last week by T. Chapman, when one who heard the lecture signed his name as an endorsement to the plan. Ag-

gressive campaigns will be carried on this year with the plan and at the O. A. C. Farmers' week next winter an organization will be effected. F. R. Ewing of Brush College in this county, is temporary chairman of the campaign committee. The non-partisan league has recently been politically active in some of the middle west states, and was particularly successful in the recent election in North Dakota.

## Court Chooses Local Papers.

The Polk County Court Itemizer and the Polk County Observer were chosen as the official papers by the county court in its recent session. The law states that the two papers with the largest circulation in the county shall be designated to print the county court proceedings.

## Deputies Get Vacation With Pay.

Hereafter deputies in the county offices will receive a ten days' vacation with pay. The order to this effect was entered by the county court Friday.

## Farmers' Union To Meet.

The annual meeting of the County Farmers' union will be held at the court house tomorrow morning at ten. Election of officers, committee reports and other matters are to be taken up at the meeting, which will have delegates from all of the fourteen locals in the county. Before another year passes it is expected that four or five new locals will be organized in the county.

## CIRCUIT COURT OPENS

### FOUR CIVIL CASES READY TO BE TRIED.

### Falls City Automobile Accident Case of Chief Interest in Judge Belt's Court Today.

Four civil cases survived the sorting process that immediately followed the convening of the January term of the Circuit court yesterday morning.

Sampson versus Hartung, involving questions of damages due for alleged injuries to A. Sampson when he was struck by the auto of Charles Hartung at Falls City last June will be heard this afternoon at 1:30 o'clock. W. C. Winslow represents the plaintiff and Oscar Hayter is attorney for the defense.

In his complaint Mr. Sampson alleges he was struck by an automobile driven by Emmerson Wonderly, an inexperienced driver, with whom Mr. Hartung was riding. He complains the automobile was exceeding the speed limit of Falls City, 20 miles per hour, at the time of the accident, and asks damages to the amount of \$2410. This case seems to overshadow the others in regard to public interest.

The other three cases are of minor interest. Roth Company against Jackman, and Whiteaker versus Whiteaker are "action for money" cases. Both will be heard Wednesday. Richardson versus Milledge is scheduled for Thursday morning at nine o'clock.

## MONMOUTH BEATEN BY SCOUTS

### Younger Generation in Dallas Can Play Basketball, Too.

Dallas Boy Scouts 24, Monmouth Boy Scouts 5. No wonder Dallas is noted for prunes and basketball. The next step in the boys' career after walking is to learn how to freeze on to a basketball, and most of them learn, too. Six members of the younger generation clearly demonstrated that their education is further developed along this line than their neighbors in Monmouth. They completely outclassed the invaders in the preliminary to the Dallas High versus Silvertown High Friday night. Donald Hayes carried off the honors for Dallas although Walter Craven was not far behind his team mate in basket shooting. The whole team showed promise of future ability enough to keep up the town's reputation for good basketball teams. Donald Hayes and R. Smith played forwards; Walter Craven, center; and McCallon, Charles Hayter and G. Smith, guards.

## Buying Up Hops.

A considerable quantity of hops has been purchased from local growers during the past week by H. L. Fenton, who is representing a Portland house. Approximately 400 bales changed hands last week at a price ranging from 4 1/2 to 7 1/2 cents. One car was loaded out for M. M. Kane & Co. of Chicago.

## WOMEN WHO MAKE GOOD

### O. A. C. NEWS TELLS OF "PRIZE WINNERS."

### Mrs. Winnie Braden of Dallas "Beats the Universe With Her Agricultural Exhibits."

Mrs. Winnie Braden of Dallas, who takes particular interest in agriculture, horticulture, community boosting, county fairs, chickens, and numerous other things, was an interested and active attendant at the farmers' meetings at O. A. C. last week, and speaking of women who do things, under the head of "Three Women Here Who Are 'Some Punkins,'" the Farmers' Week News picked her as one of the three most prominent women at the convention and had the following to say about her:

Mrs. Winnie Braden, secretary of the Polk county fair, is clearly entitled to a place on the roster of women who do things in Oregon. Last year she went out into the fields and homes of Polk county, selected, collected and arranged an exhibit, and with it took first place in the Polk county division and highest in the state at the state fair, and also sweepstakes at the Northwest Land Products exhibit at Seattle, with five counties competing from each of the three northwestern states—Oregon, Washington and Idaho.

"Our success was due to personal service," says Mrs. Braden. "I went into the fields and pastures and picked the specimens for exhibition. I hand-picked the threshed grains from the machines. I selected the fruits and vegetables for canning and canned them. I fully believed that the growers had done their part and that the results of their work was entitled to the best showing possible."

Mrs. Braden supervised the arrangement of the exhibit, according to sketches based on her mental picture. From these she permitted no variation. The scheme, simple but strong, was to feature the major products, prunes, hay and oats, and use all other material as a setting for them. Visitors who left the booth had one clear idea of the county's best commercial crops.

The sum of \$2,000 has been appropriated by a unanimous vote of the county court to pay for this work the coming year. Mrs. Braden has received scores of letters asking what she wants grown for the exhibit. C. D. Nairn, breeder of Shadeland oats—three varieties—says he is out to grow the banner oats of Oregon. Mrs. Braden says that she will not say that the Polk exhibit will repeat, but she is sure that it will take a rattling good exhibit to defeat it.

## DALLAS TO PLAY U. OF O.

### Team Will Leave Saturday for Eugene; Expects Victory.

Captain Carl Fenton will lead the strong Dallas basketball quintet to Eugene Saturday, where they are billed to meet Coach Bezdek's hoopers.

Manager Gooch has been unable to schedule any further games but hopes to bring Mount Angel, Silvertown, McMinnville, Oregon Agricultural college, University of Washington and Multnomah club here for games. He has been corresponding with all of these teams but so far they have failed to reach definite terms.

Multnomah has a strong aggregation this year and members of the Dallas team are anxious to try conclusions with the wearers of the red and white.

Captain Fenton is optimistic over the coming game with Oregon. The university has an entirely new team this year and will not be as strong as usual.

## PRUNE PLANT RESUMES RUN.

### California Packing Co. Has About 800,000 Pounds Left.

The California Packing company, formerly the J. K. Arnaby company will resume its run tomorrow as prunes. The plant has been closed since December 15.

About 800,000 pounds of prunes remain to be packed. The company expects to finish the year's run within the next two months, although orders are coming in spasmodically this time of year.

One hundred ten people are employed in the industry. Most of the output this year has been sold in the eastern part of the United States. In 1913, 60 per cent of the output went to Germany. This year the greater part was sold in this country, although England bought some.